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LETTER DATED 1 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter to you from H.E. the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov, and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition, Mr. Abdullo Nuri (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rashid ALIMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 27 June 1997 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and from the Leader of the United Tajik Opposition addressed to the Secretary-General

Today's signing of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan concludes successfully the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation. Three years of difficult political dialogue conducted under United Nations auspices have resulted in agreement on a package of documents that represents a good basis for a comprehensive and just solution to the civil conflict that has become one of the darkest pages in the history of the ancient Tajik people. Now we have the real conditions for this sad page to be turned forever.

An invaluable contribution in achieving this long-awaited success has been made by you, and the organization headed by you, whose impartial and comprehensive help have played a decisive role at all stages of the negotiating process and will never be forgotten by the grateful people of Tajikistan. We express our sincere gratitude to your Special Representative, Mr. Gerd Merrem, whose diplomatic skills, tact and patience made a breakthrough possible at the inter-Tajik negotiations and brought them to a successful conclusion. We also express our deep appreciation to his predecessors, Ambassadors Ismat Kittani and Ramiro Píriz-Ballón, who were laying the foundations of today's success in the difficult circumstances of the continuous armed confrontation. We express our sincere appreciation to Mr. Vladimir Goryayev, Political Affairs Officer at the United Nations Secretariat, whose professionalism contributed to the successful outcome of the inter-Tajik talks.

Welcoming today the completion of the negotiating process, we are fully aware that now we are facing an even more crucial stage of implementation of the agreements reached. The fact that the ceasefire has been in effect for more than six months testifies to the seriousness of the intentions of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition to implement fully all the commitments made. At the same time, this new stage will again require the assistance and support of the United Nations. In this connection, we request you and, through you, the Security Council to assist in implementing the specific protocols to the General Agreement. We also request you to help organize an international donors' conference to facilitate the mobilization of the assistance from the international community required for implementing the General Agreement and providing the urgent humanitarian aid needed during the transitional period and the peace-building process.

As we enter this crucial new stage of putting into practice the provisions of the General Agreement, we reaffirm our commitment to the early achievement of peace and national accord in our country.

(Signed) E. RAKHMONOV
President of the Republic
of Tajikistan

(Signed) A. NURI
Leader of the United
Tajik Opposition